MINUTES AND REPORT

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MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION OF VICTORIA LTD.

held at 225 Swanston Street, Melbourne on Monday 6th February 1984, commencing 4 p.m.

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1. PRESENT

Mr. J. N. Black	Chairman
Mr. E. J. Long	
Mr. B. H. Macintosh	
Mr. J. Mitchell	
Mr. M. Rundle	
Mr. O. J. Slattery	
Mr. W. W. Rawlinson	Executive Officer

Apologies for absence received from:

Messrs. R. Harper and G. J. Simm

2. OPENING

The Chairman extended New Year greetings to the Board at its first meeting for 1984.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held 5th December 1983, having been circulated were confirmed and adopted as a correct record of that meeting.

Moved Mr. Long
Seconded Mr. Mitchell

4. MATTERS ARISING

4.i	Minute 4.i	Letter received from the Premier confirming the verbal advice on the Employment Co-operative Development Programme given at the December meeting advising response will be made by Minister of Employment and Training.
4.ii	Minute 4.vi	Bendigo Trading Co-operative request assistance of the Federation in its case for special treatment in packaging dried fruit for its members.

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The Board resolved

That the Executive Officer request the assistance of the Minister administering the Weights and Measures Act in this matter. Dependent on the response will be any submission to the Co-operative Societies Advisory Council.

Moved Mr. Rundle
Seconded Mr. Long

4.iii Minute 4.viii Registrar advises the matter of gazettal as "declared law" of the Companies (Co-operative) Act 1943-82 of Western Australia has been referred to the Ministry's legal adviser.

4.iv Minute 5 Registrar advises discussions currently being held with Federation of Housing Societies to determine their Co-operative nature prior to issue of his certificate under Section 49(2) of the Co-operation Act.

4.v Minute 15.ii Circular letter issued to all Dairy Co-operatives over signature of Chairman and copied to each member of the Board.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

5.i From and to Ibis Milk Products referring to Chairman's letter, the reply from the Chairman and his attendant action in direct contact with the Chairman of Ibis Milk Products.

Noted.

5.ii From Trevor Johnston & Associates

offering professional public relations and media related services.

Noted.

5.iii From Registrar

inviting Mr. Rawlinson to become a member of the Minister administering the Co-operation Act's Committee on Co-operation under the Chairmanship of Mr. Andrew McCutcheon, M.P. The first meeting is scheduled for 9th February 1984 to be attended by the Minister.

The meeting authorised acceptance and noted that Mr. Rawlinson will be attending in his capacity of Executive Officer with authority for alternate to attend the Committee as the Board may require.

5.iv Replies from 5 Member Co-operatives to the quesionnaire on the Federation Report to Members.

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5.v From Deputy Registrar Co-operative Societies

advising Co-operative Society strength as at 31.12.83.

5.vi From Associated Herd Improvement Co-operative

on subscription payable in 1983/84.

The Board resolved

That the current year's subscription be considered included in that covering the 17 associated Herd Improvement Co-operatives but that the matter be reviewed when considering subscription rates for 1984/85.

The Board also considered the subscription payable by V.C.C.A. and noted the composite amount paid was not reflective of growth of member Credit Co-operatives.

The Board further resolved

That the Executive Officer discuss with V.C.C.A. and Security Co-operative Permanent Building Society proposals for developing strong and financial relationship with an inbuilt growth measurement in line with membership benefits of the Federation seen by both organisations.

Moved Mr. Rundle
Seconded Mr. Long

5.vii From Malaysian Co-operative Agencies

advising proposed group study visit
Sydney 10th April - Melbourne 13th April 1984.

Acknowledged requesting details of Co-operative interests to enable study visits to be arranged.

5.viii From Co-operative Federation of New South Wales

offering training course facilities.

Noted.

6. FINANCIAL

6.i Statement of Income and Expenditure 1.7.83 to 31.1.84 and estimated Balance Sheet as at 31.1.84 was presented to the meeting, discussed and received.

6.ii Unfinancial Members

The Board resolved

That the following unfinancial former members having failed to take up the offer of membership in the incorporated Federation be removed from the membership register -

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- *Brunswick Italo Australian Co-operative*
- *Brunswick Work Co-operative*
- *Frankston Motor Cycle Co-operative*
- *Loch Ard Producer Co-operative*
- *Maryborough Energy Research Co-operative*
- *Maryborough Producers Recycling Co-operative*
- *Sybylla Co-operative Press*
- *Transational Hauliers Co-operative*
- *Yarrawong & District Co-operative*

Moved Mr. Macintosh
Seconded Mr. Mitchell

7. The following shareholder members are unfinancial for the current year

Ballarat Employment Co-operative
Correct Line Graphics
Goldfields Community Radio
Public Images

The following non-shareholders, former members of the unincorporated Federation, are to receive continued encouragement to join and be listed as debtors to end of financial year

Mid Murray Producers
Open Channel
San Remo Fishermen
Thorpdale Co-operative

8. SERVICES

8.i Bulk Fuel

Mr. Slattery reported on discussions held with Shell Oil Company which indicated a fine margin could be possible from a bulk purchase scheme involving major funding protection.

The Board resolved

The proposal be referred back to the Study Committee for final recommendations on future action.

Moved Mr. Rundle
Seconded Mr. Mitchell

8.ii Central Banking

Senior Manager, Domestic Banking Services, advises ANZ Bank made policy decision to enable an offer to be made to the Federation on automatic funds transfer facilities to establish a centralised banking system. Interest payments on credit funds is currently the subject of further study.

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8.iii Group Insurance

Response to the promotional circular issued to non member Co-operatives from the list of Co-operatives supplied by the Registrar indicates an interest in development of a scheme of group insurance. The Board agreed member Co-operatives should also be addressed to assess further interest in the proposal.

Mr. Mitchell agreed to assist in drafting a questionnaire circular.

9. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

9.i Directors' Seminar

30 nominations for 30 available places have been received. Further applications will be listed with the object of repeating the exercise subject to sufficient demand.

9.ii Study Tour U.S.A. Attendance at 1984 American Institute of Co-operation Summer Institute

A proposed itinerary with costs was presented and discussed.

The Board agreed to promote the proposal subject to

- Group Travel to U.S.A.
- Group participation in Summer Institute
- Option open ended return travel arrangements
- 14 days study visits in U.S.A. as required by participants.

10. 1984 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Board resolved

That the 1984 conference be held on Tuesday, 14th August 1984 at Olympic Park with the Annual General Meeting of the Federation to be held at a later date.

Moved Mr. Mitchell
Seconded Mr. Rundle

It was agreed the programme would include presentations from

The Registrar - Mr. Kilpatrick
Public Affairs Manager, Farmland, U.S.A., - Mr. Leon Randolph

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11. REVIEW OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

The Board received advice of the intention of the Victorian Government to conduct a review of financial institutions under its Legislative control including Building Societies, Credit Societies, Co-operative Housing Societies, Industrial and Provident Societies.

A submission from the Federation is requested by 17th February 1984.

The Board resolved

A submission be prepared by a sub-committee comprising Messrs. Slattery and Rawlinson with involvement from the Victorian Credit Co-operative Association.

Moved Mr. Rundle
Seconded Mr. Long

12. DEMOCRACY IN COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

A report from a meeting of the appointed sub-committee comprising Messrs. Harper and Sevior was presented. In the absence of both these directors the Board deferred discussion until the next Board meeting.

13. CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES ADVISORY COUNCIL

The last meeting was held on 16th December 1984.

Mr. Kilpatrick has been confirmed as Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

Ms. Maureen Hopper, B.Bus., Dip.Ed., M.B.A., A.A.S.A., has been appointed Deputy Registrar, General Co-operatives.

14. CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA

The next meeting of the national Council is scheduled for 23rd February 1984 to be preceded by a meeting of State Federation Executive Officers.

The Board recorded its concern at the non receipt of formal notice of the meeting and proposed agenda to enable a briefing of delegates.

The Board authorised

Mr. Macintosh to attend as its representative with the Executive Officer, Mr. Rawlinson, as second representative as alternate for Mr. Black.

In the event of the Council ruling against Executive Officers acting as State representatives, Mr. Rawlinson will attend the meeting as observer with Mr. Macintosh exercising two votes.

Moved Mr. Rundle
Seconded Mr. Long

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15. EXECUTIVE OFFICER

15.i Mr. Rawlinson reported on discussions with the Department of Agriculture and a proposal from the South Australian Minister for Agriculture to revive the C.F.A. proposal for the establishment of an Agricultural Co-operatives' Service within the Federal Department of Primary Industry. The Secretariat of the C.F.A. and Executive Officers' State Federations in Western Australia, New South Wales and Queensland were advised of this proposal by Mr. Rawlinson.

15.ii He reported on a meeting with the Registrar and representatives of the Abalone Fishermen's Co-operative related to inflationary effects on asset values vis-a-vis share values.

The Board resolved

The Legislation Committee be convened to prepare policy recommendations to the Board on

Current Share values and asset backing

Relationships of new and old members and equity in General Reserves

Proposals relating to Co-operative Principal of equality when offset against the Principal of fair equity in assets of old established Co-operatives

The recommendations to be as applicable to Co-operative Companies as Co-operative Societies.

Moved Mr. Slattery
Seconded Mr. Rundle

16. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

17. NEXT MEETING

The Board set Monday, 19th March 1984 at 4 p.m. as the date and time of the next meeting.

18. CLOSURE

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7.20 p.m.